

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 remain in the application with claim 1 having been amended hereby and claim 4 having been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Whitehead in view Hsieh.

In paragraph 5 of the instant Official Action, claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended hereby to include claim 4 in its entirety. Claim 4 has been canceled.

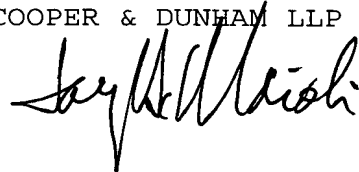
Therefore, by reason of the inclusion of the allowable subject matter in claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3 are patentably distinct over the cited references.

Accordingly, in view of the Amendments made to the claims hereby, and the statement by the Examiner that if the amendments are made to the claims to include the allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP



7217/66548

Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM:tb